

Minutes Mental Health Planning Council

6/18/08

Meeting called to order at 10:05 by Alison Hymes

Attendees

Members

J. Brandt	A. Cutshall	B. Etzler
D. Girard	R. Feldman	V. Hardy-Murrell
D. Harmon	A. Hymes	J. Johnson
M. Johnston	M. McQuown	K. Moore
L. Moore	P. Price	M. Signer
B. Stith	I. Walker-Bolten	J. Wood
J. Martinez		

New members

M. Carrasco	C. Benn	B. Neighbour
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Guests

C. Owens	K. Wamstad	A. Gulotta
S. Rose		

Staff

F. Beylotte	C. Davidson	W. Ferriss
J. Lung	M. Shank	G. Banks
K. Hunter	J. McElroy	

1. Public Comment

- a. Jo-Amrah received a letter from Alexandria CSB letter of compliant for logistic care services the letter was cc'd to the council.
- b. Jack stated that VOPPA should be contacted
- c. Alison stated that the concern is not under the councils purview, DMAS should be contacted

2. Introductions-Members introduced themselves and gave a brief update if appropriate.

3. Formal Vote on 3 New Council Members: had already voted unanimously by email but Virginia law does not allow voting by email
 - a. Candice Benn-can not be at the meeting but would like to be part of the council
 - b. Michael Carrasco
 - c. Jennifer Gobble- not at the meeting
 - d. Bonnie Neighbors

Candice Benn, Michael Carrasco and Bonnie Neighbors voted in to the council unanimously.

4. Jim Martinez of DMHMRSAS, Michael Shank presented for Jim Martinez
 - a. Update from the department on law reform
 - i. First training on June 4-5 on new commitment standards. Web page www.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov 2008 MH law reform will have updates on the new code as well as training materials
 - ii. Still working on the allocation of new funds for civil commitments \$28 million over 2 years.
 - iii. Pre-admission screeners and independent evaluators have to be certified and trained by DMHMRSAS. Developing an on-line course will be rolled out over the course of the year. Current pre-screeners will remain during the roll out phase.
 - iv. New reporting requirements for the DMHMRSAS.
 - v. New committees for the commission: How are people being chosen for the task force? Can the department aggressively find out who is on the task force?
 - b. Supportive employment: have been working with DMAS for mental health support services. Pilot with PRS in Fairfax, have been getting favorable reviews from DMAS. "How to" manual will be developed.
 - c. Peer specialist training one more scheduled in Charlottesville. DMHMRSAS looking for funds for continuing trainings. Looking to create an association for peer specialists in Virginia.
5. Alex Gulotta and Summer Associate of Legal Aid Justice Center on the new Mental Health Laws
 - a. Independent perspective on the mental health reform. Mr. Gulotta had a power point presentation on the changes to the mental health reform. The slides were handed out to council members. The council discussed with Mr. Gulotta the changes to the law.
6. Discussion of location of Council meeting for rest of 2008
 - a. The council meetings are moved to Charlottesville for the rest of the year.
 - b. Parent reps can get a stipend for travel
 - c. Unanimous support by the council to not have a retreat in October.
 - d. Money that will not be used for the October retreat can be freed up for scholarships for council members to participate in other conferences. To go to a conference you must get approval from Alison first. Over \$1000 it must go to the executive council
7. Trauma informed psychiatric care-short DVD and discussion by Council members. DVD was from the Mental Health Block Grant meeting in Washington, DC. Alison will email out to the members information on how obtain the DVD. Council members discussed the content of the DVD and their thoughts and feelings about the DVD. Suggestion that the council may make a statement on trauma informed psychiatric care to the DMHMRSAS.

8. DMHMRSAS staff on Mental Health Block Grant. Finalized guidance from the Feds. came on 6/17/08. Finalized draft will be sent to the planning council in August. Comments can be sent before August.
9. Martha Mead of the Department of Veteran Affairs on Mental Health Services to returning veterans in Virginia. New major initiative wounded warrior program which is collaboration by Veteran Affairs and DMHMRSAS. Addresses the needs of all veterans and their families on PTSD and TBI. A handout was distributed on the wounded warrior program to the council. Council members discussed services to veterans. To help the council can continue to discuss the issue and send feedback to the Department of Veteran Affairs.
10. Dawn Guirard to head the Children's Services Committee of the Mental Health Planning Council.

Next meeting is August 13, 2008 in Charlottesville.